SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-D-16-04 Issued at Sitka, Wednesday,

July 14, 2004

Effective 12:01 A.M. Thursday, Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Friday, Date: July 15, 2004 December 31, 2004, unless superseded by

subsequent emergency order.

<u>EXPLANATION</u>: This emergency order establishes a bag and possession limit of six sockeye salmon in Redoubt Bay and Lake.

<u>REGULATION</u>: Consistent with 5 AAC 01.760 Redoubt Bay and Lake sockeye salmon fisheries management plan, the following provisions are effective:

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions to the waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area.

- (g) In the Sitka vicinity:
- (5) In all waters of Redoubt Bay south of 56° 54.71' N. latitude, the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is six fish.
- 5 AAC 47.023. Special Provisions for waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits, and method and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
- (g) In the Sitka vicinity
 - (9) in Redoubt Lake drainage, the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is six fish.

JUSTIFICATION:

Regulations containing the Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Management Plan were approved by the Board in January 2003. The plan provides a management approach for sport, subsistence, and commercial fisheries that harvest Redoubt Lake sockeye salmon based on an optimal escapement goal of 7,000 to 25,000 fish. The plan establishes a sport bag and possession limit of four sockeye salmon in Redoubt Bay and the Redoubt Lake drainage, prohibits snagging in Redoubt Bay from June 1 to July 15, and prohibits snagging in Redoubt Bay by nonresident anglers for an additional period July 16 to August 31. The plan directs the department to establish sockeye salmon bag and possession limits at six fish if the projected total escapement strength is greater than 30,000 sockeye salmon on or around July 15. As of July 11, 2004, 17,427 sockeye salmon had passed the Redoubt weir. Based on past run timing, escapement is expected to exceed 40,000 sockeye salmon. Therefore, the department is establishing a bag and possession limit of 6 sockeye salmon and prohibiting snagging by nonresidents in Redoubt Bay south of 56° 54.71' N. latitude.

<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>: The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270, and at the Sitka Area Office, 304 Lake Street, Room 103, Sitka, AK 99835, (907)747-5355.

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Kevin C. Duffy Commissioner

By delegation to:

Bob Chadwick Sitka Area Management Biologist Division of Sport Fish